

PATENT APPLICATION

Navy Case No. 77,897

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Iman et al.
Serial No.: 08/845,897
Filed: August 28, 1997
For: POROUS METAL/ORGANIC POLYMERIC COMPOSITES
Examiner: Copenheaver, B.
Group Art Unit: 1771

February 16, 2001

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 19, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Twice Amended) An acoustically damping composite article, consisting essentially of a non-elastomeric polymeric matrix having therein a metal foam, said metal foam having an open cell structure, said metal foam being impregnated with said polymer matrix so as to completely penetrate said open cell structure of said foam and fill the cells thereof.
21. (Three Times Amended) An acoustically damping composite article, consisting essentially of a polymeric matrix having therein a metal foam, said metal foam having an open cell structure, said metal foam being impregnated with said polymeric matrix so as to completely penetrate said open cell structure of said foam and fill the cells thereof, and said metal foam thickness no less than 3 times the average diameter of said cells.
22. (Amended) A method of forming a composite consisting essentially of the step of:

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impregnating a metal foam, said metal foam having an open cell structure, with a resin component so as to completely penetrate said open cell structure of said foam and fill the open cells of said metal foam with said resin component; and
converting said resin component, within said cells, to a bulk solid, non-elastomeric polymerized resin, thus forming a composite comprising a matrix of said non-elastomeric polymerized resin, said matrix having therein said metal foam.